



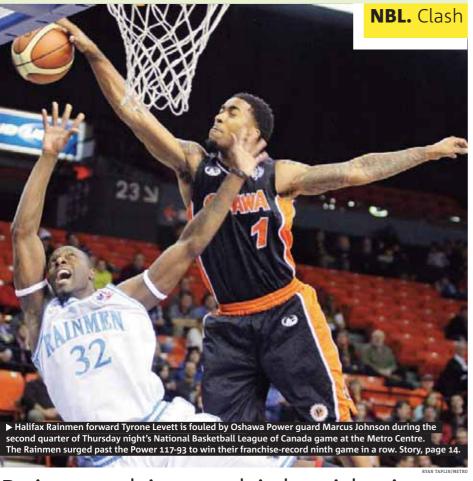


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Weekend, January 6-8, 2012 www.metronews.ca **News worth**





Rainmen hit new high with victory

University funding cut again

Tuition increases capped at 3% for now

The provincial government is offering universities a \$25-million olive branch to reduce operating costs while cutting their funding by three

Advanced Education Minister Marilyn More revealed Thursday Nova Scotia's 11 universities will receive \$324 million from the province in 2012-2013.

That's a cut of three per cent to universities' operating grant over 2011-2012, and a seven per cent cut over the last two years.

"I don't deny that difficult decisions will have to be made, but there are opportunities here," said

One such opportunity is a new three-year, \$25-million fund to support projects that cut operational costs. Universities will compete amongst themselves for that funding, presenting business cases to the Department of Labour and Advanced Education.

The funding announcement was part of a new three-year memorandum of understanding between the universities and the provincial government. In a departure from past practice, the government is not including funding levels for all three years.

Tuition hikes will be capped at three per cent, pending a government-led review of tuition policy. When that review will be complete is not clear.

"Students are going to shoulder these cuts in two ways: one, they're going to pay more, and, two, they're going to see larger class sizes, they're going to see fewer classes taught by full-time faculty ... and they're going to see declines in the services that universities are able to provide," said Mark Coffin of the Alliance of Nova Scotia Students Association. ALEX BOUTILIER



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No N.S. support for convention-centre tenants

The provincial government is not considering support to attract potential tenants to Joe Ramia's Nova Centre.

Economic and Rural Development Minister Percy Paris said Thursday he wasn't aware of any planned support for the project beyond one-third of the convention centre's capital costs.

"I'm not aware of any-

thing that we are doing to promote tenants for that project," Paris said.

While the three levels of government came together to give funding for the convention centre, the project still hinges on whether or not Ramia can find tenants to populate a planned financial centre. When the federal government came on board to the project last

Plan B

Developer Joe Ramia has two alternate plans for the site, neither of which include a convention centre component.

August, Ramia told Metro he hoped to have tenants lined up by mid-November. When contacted on Dec. 14, Ramia had no comment as to potential tenants, or when Rank Inc. will make a final decision on the proj-

Bill Estabrooks, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, said the project will be a priority for him in 2012. But it's unclear what tools are at the government's disposal at this point.

"We have regular contact through my staff with Mr. Ramia, and we're going to continue to do that," Estabrooks said Thursday.

He said there have not been requests for support, such as payroll rebates, to the cabinet table. He added Ramia has not requested any assistance during his hunt for tenants.

ALEX BOUTILIER

news

Navy ship ready to deploy

Crew has been prepping the ship for this mission since its return from Libya in August 2011



Leading Seaman Michael Michaud is going to miss his son, Archer.

The 26-year-old is leaving from Halifax Sunday on the HMSC Charlottetown for an eight-month mission to the Mediterranean Sea. That will be the longest he's ever been apart from his two-yearold.

overwhelming," said Michaud aboard the ship Thursday. "We'll see each other through emails and photos and whatnot."

No doubt the other 250 sailors set to embark upon the counter-terrorism mission will also be leaving behind loved ones.

The crew is part of NA-TO's Operation Active Endeavour, tracking, boarding and reporting on ships believed to be involved in terrorism.



"This ship is ready to deploy. Its crew is ready (and) it's technically ready. so I have no real concerns."

WADE CARTER, COMMANDER OF THE HMCS CHARLOTTETOWN.

A little of what the sailors leave behind in Halifax is gained in camaraderie, said Master Seaman Aaron Reid.

"A lot of good comes from it," said the 32-yearold, referring to life aboard the ship. "We rely on each other, and in case something happens, we have that trust.

Sailors were preparing for their departure by loading up the ship on Thursday. Some sailors carried fresh mattresses over their shoulders, while a few dozen others created a beer assembly line, stocking the fridges in preparation for their days off.

Cmdr. Wade Carter said the mission is very similar to others the ship has completed in the past, but the crew is also well trained to react to a crisis as it un-

He compared the mission to being a "cop on the

"You go out on the highway and you're watching what's going on.... You're present to make sure things remains stable."



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A U.K. MP at the centre of a **Twitter-spawned** storm gets a furious phone call from her party leader on live TV. Watch at metronews.ca/ video



Man gets 8 years after son's death

An Indian Brook man was sentenced on Thursday to eight years in custody following the death of his three-vear-old son.

James Joseph Peter-Paul, 29, entered a guilty plea to a charge of manslaughter during an appearance in Shubenacadie provincial court Thursday morning.

Three-year-old Matthew James Raymond Peter-Paul

was rushed to the Colchester Regional Hospital on Oct. 1, 2010. The RCMP received a call that night about a child in cardiac arrest. Matthew died in the hospital a few hours later.

The court heard Matthew died of a ruptured pancreas caused by blunt-force trauma to the abdominal wall. The boy also suffered blunt-force trauma to both sides of the head, bruising on his face and head, and a fractured

Peter-Paul, who cried throughout the hearing but declined to speak, was charged with second-degree murder in May 2011. That charge was withdrawn and replaced with the manslaughter charge. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

Fishermen want better deal

SOUTHWESTERN N.S. A group of fishermen has formed a new association in a bid to get better prices for lobster. Retired fisherman James Mood says members of the new association have decided not to sell any lobsters for less than \$5.50 a pound. THE CANADIAN PRESS

We can't help **fund: Premier**

CAPE BRETON. Nova Scotia Premier Darrell Dexter says the province is in no position to assume the unfunded liability associated with the pension plan of those who used to work at a now idle Cape Breton paper mill.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Speed-skating group looks to Emera Oval

▶ Facility is the largest artificial outdoor ice-skating surface east of Quebec City ▶ Speed Skating N.S. wants to hold events on the oval





While citizens are leisurely carving their skates on the newly opened Emera Oval, volunteers at Speed Skating Nova Scotia are gearing up for a few unpredictable but definitely eventful winters.

Stephen MacMurray, a volunteer with Speed Skating Nova Scotia, said the city should expect to see some competitions on the oval as early as February.

He said the club is also hoping to host a weekend

long-track competition later in the winter which will host skaters from all over the Atlantic provinces.

And if that all pans out, MacMurray said, a national and international eye will be fixed on Halifax's oval.

"They've been asking us," he said Thursday.

"Speed Skating Canada is looking for the club to develop the capacity to hold next year ... a national event, and the year after an international event."

In order for that to happen, the club needs to start producing officials and vol1,000 The number of people estimated to have used the Oval last winter.

unteers fit for a national competition, he said.

MacMurray said an elite coach has even been scouting talent in the area, and their search isn't limited to the rink. He said they've also been looking at young athletes in other sports like paddling or cycling who could transition well into speed skating.

"We'll have Olympians coming out of here, it's just a matter of building that up."

It's the East Coast's warmer weather that is attractive to other clubs across the country, said MacMurray. He said prior to the 2011 Canada Winter Games in Halifax last February, many of the competitors were "delighted" to be competing in a warmer climate.

"You have frozen ice, but it's not minus 40 like in Winnipeg," he said with a laugh.

MacKay opens up about his marriage

Although Central Nova MP Peter MacKay tied the knot in Mexico, the ceremony was filled with touches of home.

MacKay, who spoke exclusively to The New Glasgow News Thursday following his nuptials to Nazanin Afshin-Jam, said he proposed to his new wife in Valentia, a little island on the southern tip of Ireland that is his great-grand-father's ancestral home.

"We both wanted a very personal and family-oriented ceremony in a location that was easily accessible to both of our families," MacKay said of the couple's decision to wed in Mexico.

"We were married by local reverend, Glen Matheson of New Glasgow, in a beautiful, quaint, traditional hill-side chapel overlooking the ocean. Our families and loved ones took part in the service."

MacKay was quick to share the news of his marriage via his website on Wednesday shortly after the wedding occurred.

"Pictou County is my home and my family has lived there for five generations. I feel truly connected to the area and, as such, I wanted to share our happy



news with our friends and neighbours first," he said. "Nazanin feels completely at home in Pictou County, and the community has been welcoming to her.

"Nazanin grew up on the West Coast, but feels very comfortable in Nova Scotia. She has attended lots of local events, including my annual Christmas gathering the last two years. We look forward to calling Pictou County home."

MacKay said he met his new bride professionally when he was foreign minister through her work saving children on death row in Iran. They began dating later in 2010.

"I was impressed by her intelligence and commitment to help others," he said. "She is a very caring and compassionate person. I came to admire her kind heart and the fact that she loves children and animals."

Afshin-Jam is Iranianborn and was once named one of the 50 most beautiful people in the world. NEW GLASGOW NEWS

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of riding study: MLA

Percy Paris, the Minister of African Nova Scotian Affairs, says he's confident the electoral boundaries commission will take diversity into account while examining a protected African Nova Scotian constituency.

The arm's-length commission will undertake an eight-month study of the province's 52 ridings. Each riding is required to have a number of electors within 25 per cent of the median.

That's an issue for the riding of Preston, which had just 7,680 voters in 2009.

Paris was non-committal when asked whether he thinks that riding should stay protected, or whether there is a need for an African Nova Scotian-designated riding.

"The first thing you notice about Percy Paris (is that) he's a member of the black community of Nova Scotia," Paris told reporters Thursday. "But I also think when people look at Percy Paris, MLA, that they look at their representative regardless (of) whether he's black or non-black."

ALEX BOUTILIER

Chelsea woman killed in crash with snowplow

A Nova Scotia woman has died after a collision involving a vehicle and a snowplow. The crash occurred on Highway 210 in Lunenburg Country near Waterloo Road around 11:30 a.m. Thursday.

In a statement, the Mounties say the female driver of the vehicle lost control and slid into the path of the oncoming snowplow. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Diversity will be part of riding study: MLA 'Completely ridiculous'

Lawyer calls out father's testimony in 2009 death of 7-week-old daughter

A father's explanation that his baby daughter's brain injuries may have been the result of a change in formula or a decision to take her outside in a stroller were "completely ridiculous," the Crown said Thursday.

Ashiqur Rahman has pleaded not guilty to manslaughter and aggravated assault in the July 27, 2009, death of seven-weekold Aurora Breakthrough.

Crown lawyer Mark Heerema asked Rahman why he told a doctor before her death that a change in formula, the mother's rocking of the baby and her decision to take the child outside in a stroller may have caused Aurora's brain damage.

"Aren't those three explanations completely ridiculous?" Heerema asked.

Rahman, 26, said he was simply trying to come up possibilities that might help the doctor and it was all he could think of on the day Aurora was admitted to a Halifax hospital.

"I gave whatever information I could," he said. "I didn't know whether it would be useful to him."

Aurora died three days

Heerema told the Nova Scotia Supreme Court that Rahman offered the explanations because he knew his rough handling of the child caused the injuries, an accusation Rahman has repeatedly denied in his testimony.

His former girlfriend, Jane Gomes, has testified she saw Rahman shake and slap the baby on two separate occasions.



The trial has also heard medical evidence from the province's medical examiner that Aurora died due to 'non-accidental trauma."

The court has also heard testimony from a pediatric pathologist who said Aurora had tears in her brain tissue caused by trauma that occurred more than two weeks before her death.

Outside court, Heerema

said the Crown tried to show inconsistencies in Rahman's testimony.

"Credibility is an important consideration in a criminal trial," Heerema said. "Many of the questions were intended to show that perhaps the court may not find him to be credible in his version of

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THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Innu band told to redo vote

The Federal Court of Canada has overturned a 2010 band-council election in the Labrador Innu community of Natuashish and ordered a new vote.

Justice Donald Rennie says there were major problems with the way the original vote was held.

The problems include short notice of the vote, a lack of control of the number of ballots printed, uncertainty about custody of the ballot boxes and a large number of spoiled ballots.

He says the only way to restore confidence in the process is to set aside the 2010 results and hold another election within three months. "I find that substantial problems pervaded this election," Rennie wrote in his decision. THE CANADIAN PRESS

First Nation seeks aid

Ottawa says Attawapiskat bills will be paid as soon as band co-operates

First Nations in the James Bay region of Northern Ontario say their housing crisis is deepening despite the federal government's recent response to Attawapiskat.

In a statement issued Thursday, the troubled Attawapiskat First Nation said it won't be able to make its January payroll unless the federal government shows more flexibility.

Many families are still living in tents and substandard shelters there. And now essential services such as education are at risk because the \$1.5 million earmarked for them has been placed in the hands of a government-appointed third party, according to a statement from the regional Mushkegowuk Council

Neighbouring Cree communities along James Bay



are crying out for emergency help as well.

"With temperatures now in the minus 30s and 40s, the chiefs are now calling on the federal and provincial governments to take immediate action on the housing crisis in Fort Albany and Kashechewan as

well," the statement said.

The federal government contests almost every point in the council's statement.

Aboriginal Affairs Minister John Duncan said the third-party manager appointed by Ottawa to run Attawapiskat's finances will make sure all essential

services are running smoothly and the bills are paid — as soon as the band starts co-operating with him and giving him the information he needs.

"As was addressed in a letter on January 4, 2012 to Chief (Theresa) Spence, the third-party manager is ready to issue payroll cheques for essential services, such as teachers, and will do so as soon as he is provided with the necessary information from the chief and council," Duncan said in an emailed statement.

He said families no longer need to live in tents because the local healing lodge has been renovated. It now has running water, bathrooms and heat, and is ready to accept families who feel they need better shelter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

911 tape reveals tension at Texas school shooting

A 911 recording reveals the tense moments in a Texas middle school when police confronted an eighth-grader who was brandishing a realisticlooking pellet gun and repeatedly ordered him to put the weapon down.

Over and over, officers can be heard telling 15-year-old Jaime Gonzalez to put the weapon on the floor. When he refused, they fatally shot the boy Wednesday at Cummings Middle School in Brownsville.

A six-minute recording of the 911 call that summoned police was obtained Thursday by the Brownsville Herald.

An assistant principal made the call. As officers arrive, she says Gonzalez is drawing the weapon. A moment later, police yell that Gonzalez is running through the hall.

Someone can be heard yelling that the student



says he's willing to die. And an administrator is yelling, "Lock the door."

The weapon turned out to be a pellet gun that closely resembled the real thing. No one else was injured

Gonzalez's parents demanded to know why officers took lethal action.

"Why was so much excess force used on a minor?" asked the boy's father, Jaime Gonzalez, Sr. "Three shots. Why not one that would bring him down?"

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



New addition to Layton family

The Layton family has a new addition as of Thursday, as the late Jack Layton's daughter gave birth to a girl. Solace Huxley Layton Campbell was born at 2:15 a.m. Sarah Layton, the daughter of former NDP leader Jack Layton, who died in August, gave birth to the healthy baby girl, who weighed in at 9.4 pounds.

Officer dies after Utah shootout

Gunfire erupted as antidrug police served a search warrant in a Utah neighbourhood, killing one officer and injuring five others and a suspect, authorities said. Ogden police said in a statement early Thursday that agent Jared Francom died from his wounds following Wednesday night's shooting. Five police officers remain hospitalized with serious to critical injuries. Ogden police say shooting suspect Matthew David Stewart is at a hospital under guard, with nonlife-threatening injuries.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

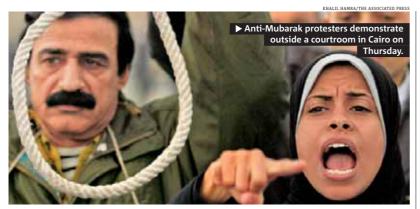


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Hang Mubarak: Prosecutors

Prosecutors on Thursday called for Hosni Mubarak to be hanged, saying he bore full responsibility for the killing of some 800 protesters during the uprising against him, in a courtroom moment unthinkable barely a year ago when the longtime leader held unquestioned power.

The demand for the death penalty at the 83-year-old former president's trial played to the widespread resentment of

Mubarak among Egyptians who hoped that punishment for his oppressive rule would be the fruit of the Arab Spring.

But some activists are skeptical the sentence would ever be carried out if he is convicted. A conviction would be followed by a possibly lengthy appeals process, and Egypt's new rulers — the military — have the power to veto a death sentence.

Mubarak has been

brought to every hearing since Aug. 3 on a hospital gurney, wheeled into the courtroom cage.

Prosecutor Mustafa Khater gave a speech demanding the death penalty for Mubarak, former Interior Minister Habib el-Adly and four police commanders. "Retribution is the solution. Any fair judge must issue a death sentence for these defendants," said Khater, one of five prosecutors. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Early retirement? Better think again

Average Canadian worker wants to retire by 61, while 25- to 30-year-olds aim for age 59, study found

Canadians appear to be on a collision course with harsh reality when it comes to their increasingly unrealistic expectations for retiring early and comfortably.

With the underfunding in pension plans and rising household debt, a new TD Bank survey suggests Canadians haven't adjusted their retirement notions.

"Early retirement is only achievable if you take steps needed to get there," said Cynthia Caskey of TD Waterhouse

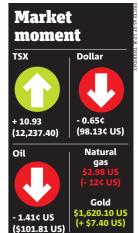
The online survey of 1,006 shows six in 10 Canadians have less than \$100,000 in household assets, not counting any home equity, while 16 per cent have no assets at all. It also found that 44 per cent of respondents believe they

will have debt when they retire, and 13 per cent said their debt will be significant. That coincides with the latest Statistics Canada data showing household debt has reached a record 153 per cent of disposable income, although 70 per cent of that is in mortgages.

"For some Canadians, it's not going to be about choice. They will have to work past age 65 paying off debt or working longer hours to afford their retirement," Caskey said.

The survey's findings are

The survey's findings are in line with other polls showing a growing disconnect between the retirement Canadians wish and what they may be able to afford. Some data have already shown that people are putting off retirement



for a later date. Savings is key to retirement plans because only about four in 10 Canadians have a company pension. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Looking beyond the wars he inherited, President Barack Obama on Thursday launched a reshaping and shrinking of the military. He vowed to preserve U.S. pre-eminence even as the army and marine corps shed troops and the administration considers reducing its nuclear weapons arsenal.

The changes won't come without risk, Defence Secretary Leon Panetta said. But he called it inevitable.

At the Pentagon, Obama said the U.S. is "turning a page" after having killed Osama bin Laden, withdrawn troops from Iraq and begun to wind down the war in Afghanistan. He outlined a vision for the future that some Republican lawmakers quickly dubbed wrong-headed.

"Our military will be leaner, but the world must know the United States is going to maintain our military superiority," Obama said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Digital sales play catch-up

U.S. album sales rose by more than three per cent last year, the first gain since 2004 — a sign that rising digital sales are stemming the decade-long decline of CDs. The uptick to 458 million album sales was helped by Adele's album 21, which sold 5.8 million copies, according to Nielsen SoundScan.



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THE METRO LIST

Kate turns big 3-0: Her name is already forecast to be the most-used word in social media this year, and watch how much attention Kate gets next Monday (Jan. 9) when the

9

duchess turns 30. What would be the icing on the cake? When Will and Kate announce they're having a baby. Twitter would completely melt.

Rob Schneider: His new comedy,

Rob, airs next week (Jan. 12). It's about a newlywed dealing with his wife's close-knit Mexican-American family. TV critic Jace Lacob watched the pilot and live-tweeted his disdain for it. Sample tweet from @televisionary: "If Hell exists, it

would be watching the Rob pilot over and over again for eternity. And I am only two minutes in ..." Must-watch.

@RupertMurdoch: Eighty-year-old media mogul Rupert Murdoch opened his (rather boring) Twitter account over the New Year's holiday and already has more than 100,000 followers. Murdoch, whose media empire, News Corp., has been under increased scrutiny due to phone hacking at his U.K. newspapers, better hope his Twitter account never gets hacked.

Team Canada: Our juniors were getting smoked 6-1 in the semifinal by Russia at the Calgary Saddledome, and staged what was almost an epic comeback, scoring four goals in the third and hitting a post late before falling short 6-5. Even though they didn't make the final, they can hold their heads high after that valiant comeback. 2013 will be their golden year.

Twins born a year apart: In a story gone viral this week, a Minneapolis couple welcomed twins six hours apart, with a boy, Beckett, born 6:40 p.m. on Dec. 31, 2011, and a girl, Freya, Jan. 1, 2012, at 12:26 a.m. New Year's Day. This means a) separate birthdays for both, and b) whenever the siblings fight, Beckett can go, "Yo, I'm a year older."

Butt out: A giant 12-foot acrylic cigarette butt was erected in Toronto Tuesday as The Canadian Cancer Society launched its seventh annual Driven to Quit Challenge. If you're thinking of quitting, try it. I've been clean from the cancer sticks for over 10 years. All you need is 20 seconds of insane courage. And willpower.

Steve Jobs action figure: A Chinese toy company called InIcons is releasing a detailed 12-inch action figure of Jobs wearing his signature black turtleneck, rimless glasses and blue jeans. Due for U.S. release late February (if Apple gives permission), word is they're getting tons of pre-orders. Accessories such as iPhone, iPad and iPod are not included!

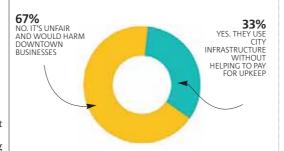
4,700 self-portraits: For 14 years, Canadian photographer Jeff Harris has been doing an epic art project whereby he takes a self-portrait each day and then posts it on his website to take his readers along on his adventures. Think of it as his personal diary, but in photos. Check it out at jeffharris.org

Follow Neil Morton on Twitter (@neilmorton).



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Should suburban commuters pay higher rates for downtown parking?



Local tweets



• @heatfras: Well it looks like winter is officially

here....it's snowing in #Halifax :(

- @AshlyBickford4: Snow isn't usually a good thing, but right now downtown Halifax looks beautiful #snowglobe
- @kim_purcell: had a dream last night that I left dal and went to the mount..uhh #why
- @PhebeAlida: love seeing old men in spandex running through wolfville..lol
- @ryanmhowell: I just went to refill what I thought was

my empty coffee, only to find the cup half full. This might be a long day.

- @MB_Thompson: I just watched a man drag a semiconscious SHEEP clear across Robie St. to the QEII. Seriously WTF
- @dstcmntx: "You looked artsy so I figured you went to OCAD." - lil ole lady at Tim Horton's.
- @KatlynHubley: I just love running out of gas in halifax while in the middle of an intersection
- ▶ **@twharding:** Waiting to see an ENT doctor. His office is next to a private sleep clinic...hhnmmmm...wonder where he'll refer me?? #Dartmouth #BakerDrive

A writing exam, Japanese-style



Calligraphy contest honours Japan's tsunami victims

DISASTER. Around the world, people ring bells or shoot fireworks to welcome the new year, but in Japan they celebrate by showing off their brushwork. Thousands of contestants took part in Japan's 48th annual New

Year Calligraphy Contest. About 3,000 filled the Nippon Budokan indoor arena for the event.

Calligraphers this year were encouraged to write banners of well wishes for those affected by last year's devastating earthquake and tsunami.

"My banner reads
'Strong will' — for those
hit by the disaster. I also
wish an early spring will
arrive there," said
Kuramochi Jun, a 12-yearold student.

METRO WORLD NEWS

New-year banners

- "The heart waits for spring" Haru matsu kokoro (春待つ心)
- ▶ "Strong will" Tsuyoi ishi (強い意志)
- "The sky of the New Year" Shinnen no sora (新年の空)



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Scene in brief



Actress-turned-director Sarah Polley is adapting Margaret Atwood's award-winning novel Alias Grace for the big screen. The project once again pairs the Toronto filmmaker with an acclaimed Canadian writer -Pollev's celebrated directorial debut Away From Her was based on Alice Munro's short story The Bear Came Over the Mountain.
THE CANADIAN PRESS



Broadway return as Harry

Synopsis

Award season is upon us. Soon Hollywood will hand out more gold than Fort Knox on free doubloon day. This week the Reel Guys have a look at the first major awards, the Golden Globes



○ Breslin and Crouse make their picks for the Golden Globes **○** Is it Clooney's year?

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE & MARK **BRESLIN**



bits and pieces of a lot of movies in 2011 so choosing winners in the Golden Globe Best Movie categories is giving me a bit of a headache. In the drama category I'll have to go with Moneyball as the film that hit it out of the park. As for comedy or musical it's a toss up between The Artist, which was the best time I had at the movies overall this year, and Bridesmaids, which made me laugh more than any movie this vear. You?

Richard: Mark, I enjoyed

Mark: Yes, Richard, Moneyball was a fine film. But I can't believe it will take away any top prizes be-

cause it just lacked any real emotional content - and the ending, while true to life, was a bit of a dud. I think it's George Clooney's year, and that The Descendents is the film to beat in the drama category. As for comedy, Bridesmaids is the funniest movie of the year, although The Artist is a more audacious achievement. I notice its director is nominated in that category, and I hope he wins. He made me feel like I was in

RC: I think you're right about Clooney. He brings with him the kind of star power the Globes crave for their broadcast. The Artist,

not so much. With that in mind it seems likely Meryl Streep will take the Globe for best dramatic actress for The Iron Lady. Her mix of star power and chops almost guarantees a win. As for Comedy or Drama, I'd like to see Kristen Wiig take it for Bridesmaids. Of all the nominees it is the only fullon comedic performance.

MB: You're right about La Streep. Frankly, she won it the day the trailer aired. And with Michelle Williams shunted into the comedy category, there's little competition for her. And although it's a real stretch to call Williams' Monroe homage 'comedy',

her only competition will be Charlize Theron's dress. Kristin Wiig is a comedic genius — the best thing since Carol Burnett — but I think her bid will be scuttled by the movie's poop jokes. Unfair, perhaps, but pure comedy scares votes away — it just doesn't seem like acting.

RC: One movie I think is a lock is the hands-down favourite for Best Foreign Film, A Separation, I'll be shocked if this doesn't win.

MB: Haven't seen it, but the buzz has been deafening. As long as Cars 2 doesn't win for Best Animated Picture, I'll be a happy man.

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THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., JAN. 6 TO THURS., JAN. 12. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

HALIFAX

BAYERS LAKE 190 Chain Lake Dr., Bayers Lake 902-876-4800

The Adventures of Tintin (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1

The Adventures of Tintin 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 3:55-7:10

The Adventures of Tintin: An IMAX **3D Experience** (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:30

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:15-12:45-2:40-3:05-6:30-

The Darkest Hour 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:05-2:30-7:05-

The Descendants (14) Dolby Stereo Digital. Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:40-3:35-7:40-10:30 **The Devil Inside** (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-2:50-7:35-9:50 The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (STC)
Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu
1:05-4:45-8:30

Happy Feet Two (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-3:55 Hugo 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-4:05-7:20-10:10

Mission: Impossible — Ghost Proto-col (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12-3:20-6:40-10 Mission: Impossible — Ghost Proto-

col: The IMAX Experience (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 4-7-9:40 **The Muppets** (G) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu

New Year's Eve (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital. Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:35-3:25-7:30-10:20

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of

Shadows (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:20-3:15-7:25-7:40-10:20-10:30 The Sitter (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9

War Horse (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:10-3:30-6:50-10:05 We Bought a Zoo (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital

Young Adult (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 1:25-3:50-7:15-9:40

IMAX 190 Chain Lake Dr., Bayers Lake 902-876-4800

The Adventures of Tintin: An IMAX 3D Experience (STC) Fri-Thu 1:30 Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol: The IMAX Experience (STC) Fri-Thu 4-

OXFORD THEATRE

6408 Quinpool R 902-423-7488

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 8 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 4:30-8 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon 8 Dolby Stereo Digital Tue 4:30-8 Dolby Stereo Digital

PARK LANE

5657 Spring Garden Rd. 902-423-4860

The Adventures of Tintin (STC) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4 The Adventures of Tintin 3D (STC) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 4-7-9:50 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7-9:50

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LOWER SACKVILLE

LOWER SACKVILLE 760 Sackville Dr., Downsview Plaza 902-869-2022

The Adventures of Tintin: The Secret of the Unicorn (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu

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TRURO

TRURO 20 Treaty Trail, Millbrook 902-895-8020

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BRIDGEWATER

BRIDGEWATER 349 Lahave St., 902-527-4020

The Adventures of Tintin (STC) Sat 3:15

The Adventures of Tintin 3D (STC) Fri-Sat 6:30-9:25 The Adventures of Tintin: The Secret

of the Unicorn 3D (STC) Sun-Thu 5:45-8:40

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DARTMOUTH

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▶ Paula Patton, left plays Jane, Simon Pegg plays Benji, Tom Cruise plays Ethan

Hunt, and Jeremy Renner plays Brandt in Mission: Impossible Ghost Protocol









Russell Brand just can't tell a lie

• Katy Perry told she 'wasn't that funny' by husband, according to source

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON

SCENE@METRONEWS.CA



Katy Perry was reportedly blindsided by Russell Brand's divorce filing, but according to sources

close to the singer there was plenty of evidence he was losing interest, according to Us Weekly.

"There were so many times when he wasn't there," a source says, offering the last night of



Perry's tour in November as an example: "He was totally uninterested and seemed annoyed he was there. I don't think he sat through one song."

And then there was Brand's response to her Saturday Night Live hosting stint in December.

Perry reportedly begged Brand to appear in a skit on the episode, but he declined and stayed in L.A. instead. And after it aired?

"He told her that she wasn't that funny," the source says. "That really hurt"

But, um, he was right? It's hard to sit through a Katy Perry concert and she was Nancy Kerriganesque terrible on SNL.

Now, if only she would hit him with his own medicine and tell him to buy a bigger pair of pants.





Pasta perfection in a few simple steps

This recipe offers tons of flavour, without putting in tons of effort

DINNER EXPRESS

EMILY RICHARDS

FOOD@METRONEWS.CA



Using salsa as a base for sauces adds tons of flavour without a lot of ef-

fort. Look for fresh tortellini or small ravioli and choose your favourite filling of meat or cheese.

Preparation:

- In nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium heat and cook onion, garlic and oregano for 5 minutes or until softened. Add salsa and bring to a simmer and cook, stirring, for 3 minutes.
- 2 Stir in ricotta, 2 tbsp (25 mL) of the parsley and pepper.
- Meanwhile, in large pot of boiling salted water, cook tortellini for about 8 minutes or until they are tender but firm (al dente).
- Drain and add to sauce and toss to coat. Serve immediately or alternatively scrape into



shallow casserole and sprinkle with cheese. Broil for 2 minutes or until cheese is melted and golden. Sprinkle with remaining parsley. EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT

Ingredients:

- 1 tbsp (15 mL) extra virgin olive oil
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tsp (5 mL) dried oregano1 1/2 cups (375 mL)
- 1 1/2 cups (375 mL) chunky medium salsa
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) ricotta

cheese

- 3 tbsp (45 mL) chopped fresh parsley
- Pinch pepper
- 1 pkg (350 g) fresh cheese or meat tortellini pasta
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) shredded mozzarella cheese (optional)

Liquid Assets



Where does the time go? My first column of the New Year has traditionally been dedicated to my boozy predictions for the next 12 months, and here they are.

In the wine world old will be new again. Italy began a comeback late last year and its European neighbours in France and Spain are destined to share in the resurgence of consumer love for classically designed wines.

New World grape crushers from Canada (especially VQA vino from Ontario and B.C. and those earning the Tidal Bay appellation in Nova Scotia) will broaden their fan base and Chilean winemakers will get the recognition they deserve

they deserve.

Though premium vodka will rule the spirit world, I predict liqueurs will be the hard liquor breakout star with seemingly simple mixtures like the smooth and mouth-mas-

saging combo of whiskey and honey that is Jack Daniel's Tennessee Honey (\$28.95 to \$29.99).

PETER ROCKWELL IS THE EVERYMAN'S WINE WRITER, WORKING IN THE LIQUOR INDUSTRY FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS AND TRAVELLING THE GLOBE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO FILL HIS GLASS AND PUT INTO WORDS.



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culinary book awards under revamped categories.

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Jan. 9 Mon: 7-8pm in Halifax and Dartmouth

12 WEEK BEGINNERS' COURSES:

Jan. 11 Wed: 9:30-11:30am in Dartmouth Jan. 12 Thurs: 10-12noon or 6-8pm in Halifax Jan. 16 Mon: 6:00-8:30pm in Halifax

6:30-8:30pm in Dartmouth

15 WEEK BEGINNERS' COURSE: Jan. 11 Wed: 6-7:30pm in East Hants 2029 North Park St, Halifax

Enfield Legion, East Hants, (50 Old Enfield Rd.)

St. Peters Anglican Church Hall, 3 Dakin Cres. (Off Kearney Lake Rd./Bedford Hwy)

80 Chameau Crescent, Dartmouth (Forest Hills United Church)

650 Sackville Dr., Lower Sackville (Acadia Community Hall)

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PORTERS LAKE NATIVE ANDREW GORDON ON WAIVERS THURSDAY. THE 26-YEAR-OLD FORWARD HAS TWO GOALS AND THREE FIRST FULL NHL SEASON AFTER SPENDING THE BETTER PART OF FOUR YEARS IN THE AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE, GORDON IS SIGNED TO A TWO-YEAR CONTRACT THAT WILL PAY HIM \$250,000 US IF HE'S ASSIGNED TO THE MINORS THIS SEASON AND \$550,000 AT BOTH THE NHL AND MINOR-LEAGUE LEVEL **NEXT SEASON**

Rainmen harness Power

Crowd of 3,204 watch Rainmen pound Oshawa for fourth straight victory ○ Take franchise-best winning streak on road Saturday



You could say the Halifax Rainmen have "Powered up" for a big game.

The Rainmen on Thursday rumbled to their fourth win in the past three weeks over the Oshawa Power, extending their franchise-record winning streak to nine games with a 117-93 victory at the Metro Centre.

Now 12-4 and tied for second overall in the National Basketball League of Canada, the Rainmen are headed to London, Ont., for a huge clash with the first-place Lightning (14-4) on Saturday.

"They're No. 1," said Rainmen forward Tyrone Levett, who posted a 17-point, 10-rebound double-double. "In order for us to be No. 1, we have to beat No. 1. That's our destiny and that's what we're going to do."

Much like the rest of their winning streak, just about everything went right for the Rainmen on Thursday. They received double-digit scoring from seven players, including Lawrence Wright's teambest 22-point, 10-rebound effort, and won each quarter by a comfortable margin.

Having played Oshawa three straight times — winning by an average of 28 "We're excited.
We're ready for
London. Hopefully
we can bring our
'A' game and not
have any letdowns,
on offence or
defence."

RAINMEN GUARD IUSTIN IOHNSON

points — the Rainmen are eager for a new foe.

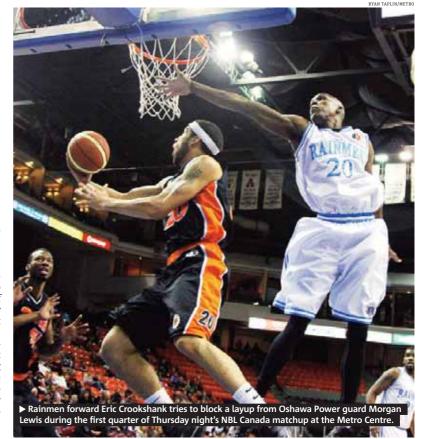
"I'm tired of 'em, man," said guard Justin Johnson, who chipped in with 15 points. "We did a good job on them, but at the end of the day, they're another team we needed to beat. It just helps our resumé."

The Rainmen are a different team from the one that lost a season-opening home-and-home with the Lightning in early November. They have five new faces and say they're playing better as a team.

"We're more of a family," Johnson said. "We do everything together off the court, and we can tell each other the truth. We can tell a guy to get back on defence and nobody gets mad. That's what coach focuses on, being a family and playing defence, and that's why we've been winning."

A win against London would leave the two teams locked in a first-place tie.

"Our plan is to go to London, play hard and win," Levett said. "No excuses."



NBL CANADA

Halifax home to all-star weekend

The Metro Centre will play host to a minor-pro-

fessional basketball allstar game for the third time in six years.

National Basketball League of Canada commissioner John Kennedy was in town on Thursday to announce that the circuit's inaugural all-star weekend will be held in Halifax this spring. The tentative dates for the two-day extravaganza are March 31 and April 1.

"I cannot imagine a more suitable place," Kennedy said in a release

Halifax hosted the Premier Basketball League all-star game in 2010 and the American Basketball Association all-star game in 2007.

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Moose ship Desjardin to Quebec for help on back-end

Mooseheads swing first deal of QMJHL trade period ○ Trade deadline set for Saturday at 1 p.m.



The Halifax Mooseheads bolstered their defence corps with some local talent on Thursday, but it cost them a popular veteran.

The Mooseheads traded 19-year-old winger Gabriel Desjardins to the Quebec Remparts for 18-year-old defenceman Brendan Duke of Cole Harbour in a deal that also included an exchange of five draft picks.

The Mooseheads landed the Remparts' first-round pick in 2012 while surrendering two second-round picks in 2012. It is also expected the teams will swap more picks at the draft in June, with the Mooseheads getting a 2013 second-rounder for a 2013 third-rounder.

Desjardins spent threeand-a-half years with the Mooseheads, winning the team's Fans' Choice Award in 2010. He was having a solid season, with 11 goals and 10 assists for 21 points in 37 games.

"At the end of the day, we had lots of forwards and we needed a defenceman," said Mooseheads general manager Cam Russell. "We think Duke will fit in fine and we're excited to have him. We were looking to get a firstround pick as well, so we're happy with how it worked out."

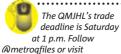
The expansion draft was also a factor, Russell said. Although the draft's rules haven't been re-



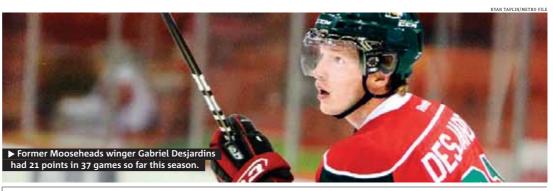
vealed to the public, it is expected only 16 players will be protected. Desjardins, who the Mooseheads didn't envision as an overager for them, likely would have been exposed anyway.

Duke, who starred for Cole Harbour at the major midget level, is in his second 'Q' season. He missed three months with a shoulder injury this season, but has a goal and three assists, and is a minus-9 in 53 career games.

"He's a physical defensive defenceman who is also capable of playing on a power play," Russell said. "He was running the power play (in major midget), so he has good skills. He's an all-around defenceman."



Ametroqfiles or visit www.metronews.ca/qfiles for the latest.





Sweden takes gold in overtime

Mika Zibanejad scored at 10:09 of overtime to lead Sweden to a 1-0 win over Russia in the final of the world junior hockey championship on Thurs-

Zibanejad stole the puck from Russian forward Nikita Gusev before breaking into the Russian zone and roofing a backhand shot over the blocker of goaltender Andrei Makarov, who finished the game with 57 saves.

The win gave Sweden for the shutout. its second gold medal at

the event and their first since 1981. It was the first time the two European nations had met in the world junior gold-medal game since the tournament adopted a playoff format in 1996.

Johan Gustafsson made 17 saves in Sweden's net

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Visentin shines in bronze game

• Canadian goaltender 'proud' of 3rd-place finish in WJC tournament

He may have had a medal of a lesser colour around his neck, but Mark Visentin could talk about performance with pride this time.

The goaltender was the feel-good story in Canada's bronze-medal win at the world junior hockey championship Thursday in Cal-

Visentin stopped a penalty shot in the second period, executed a behindthe-back glove save in the third period and made 27 saves in a 4-0 shutout of Finland.

Visentin was in goal in last year's final in Buffalo, N.Y., where Russia scored five times in the third period to beat Canada 5-3 for gold.

While Visentin wasn't entirely to blame for Canada' collapse there, he's had to wear it for a year. The Niagara IceDog was constantly reminded of it as tournament the proached.

"Our best player was Mark Visentin who played outstanding and made big saves in each period," said head coach Don Hay. "I'm really happy for Mark and what he's gone through from last year's tournament.

Down three players due to injuries and a suspension, the short-staffed Canadian team had to dig into its reserves and needed a big game from Visentin.

"Obviously it's disappointing we couldn't play for gold this year," Visentin said. "You know what? We wouldn't have been satisfied with fourth place.

"I'm not going to say e're satisfied with we're with bronze, but I'm still proud of having a bronze medal in my hand, and when I look at in 30 years I'll be proud of it and hopefully I can show my kids.

Quinton Howden scored two goals while Tanner Pearson and Mark Scheifele had the others before 18,595 spectators, including Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

Finland's Sami Aittokallio stopped 40 shots. THE CANADIAN PRESS





Alfredsson, three other Sens voted as all-stars

○ Talented young Ottawa blue-liner Karlsson earns most votes in NHL

The Ottawa Senators are assured of having at least four familiar faces on the ice when they host the NHL all-star game this month.

Defenceman Erik Karlsson led all vote-getters in fan balloting, and captain Daniel Alfredsson and fellow forwards Milan Michalek and Jason Spezza also were elected for the game on Jan. 29.

The NHL said Thursday they will be joined by Toronto defenceman Dion Phaneuf and Boston Bruins goalie Tim Thomas in this year's game.

The four Senators hold the top four spots on the

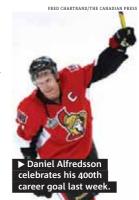
club's scoring list, with Spezza leading the way with 40 points — three more than Karlsson. However, Karlsson topped everyone in the league with 939,951 votes, 42,536 more than Alfredsson. Michalek got his spot with a late rush, beating out Toronto's Phil Kessel by 42,144 votes. Kessel had been in line to be voted in during the election period.

"It's great, obviously, to see all four of us getting in," Alfredsson said. "You look at Jason, Erik, and Milan, too, they've had great starts to the season. If we would have had to choose one player, it would have

tough because they've all played great to start the season. To be able to all get in when it is in Ottawa, it's going to be a special occasion for all of us and something we'll cherish forever, I'm sure."

About 24 million votes were cast by fans from Nov. 14 until Jan. 4 in the all-digital balloting, a 66 per cent increase over last

Missing from the initial list of stars are Tampa Bay's Steven Stamkos, who leads the NHL with 27 goals, along with Rangers forward Marian Gaborik. Kessel, Jonathan Toews of Chicago, and Pittsburgh's



James Neal — the next four top goal scorers ahead of Michalek.

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Burke bemoans lack of fighting in the NHL

Brian Burke is struggling to come to grips with the evolution of hockey.

On a day when the Toronto Maple Leafs general manager sent enforcer Colton Orr to the American Hockey League, he bemoaned the fact there doesn't appear to be much need for players like him in today's game.

Long a proponent of

rough-and-tumble hockey, Burke now presides over a Leafs team that is built largely on speed and skill. The sport in general has trended in that direction since the lockout and it's come with a few other developments Burke finds troubling.

"If you want a game where guys can cheapshot people and not face "I wonder about the accountability in our game and the notion that players would stick up for themselves and for each other."

BRIAN BURKE

retribution, I'm not sure that's a healthy evolution," he said Thursday at an impromptu media conference. "The speed of the game, I love how the

game's evolved in terms of how it's played. But you're seeing where there is no accountability, this is the byproduct — is people running around that won't back it up."

According to numbers provided by the NHL, fighting is down significantly this season. Through play Wednesday, there was an average of 0.8 fighting majors per game compared with 1.2 at the same point last

"To me, it's a dangerous turn in our game,"

The Leafs found themselves in the bottom third of NHL teams in that category with just 13 total fighting majors before facing Winnipeg on Thursday night.

The New York Rangers were tops with 31 while the Detroit Red Wings were last with six.

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Crossword

Across

1 Balaam's beast

4 Practice boxing

8 Nitwit 12 Make pigeon

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13 — Alto

14 Pressing need?

15 Attention-getting, and much more

17 Progeny

18 Boorish types

19 Sanders' franchise

21 Firmament

22 X-rated 26 Busy places

29 Pigs' digs

30 Literary collection 31 Wading bird

32 More, to Manuel

33 Item on stage

34 Lair 35 Car wash option

36 South American plain

37 Strikingly unusual 39 One-name R&B artist

40 Zeta follower

41 Chronicles

45 Con game 48 Foolishly impracti-

50 Novelist Ferber

51 Magazine founder

Eric 52 Eggs

53 Clothing store sec-

tion 54 Dines

55 Buddhist sect

Down

1 In need of a mas-

2 Protein bean 3 Last year's frosh 4 Ghosts 5 Sucker 6 Foreman foe

46 47

7 Pyrotechnician's supply 8 "Saturday Night

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25 Mob boss 26 Stash 27 Mountain goat

28 In — veritas 29 Lisa Simpson's in-

strument 32 Rhesus monkey 33 City north of Dal-

35 Humour las 36 Bobcats' kin

38 33-Down's state 39 Upkeep (Abbr.)

42 The gamut 43 Not pretaped 44

Read cursorily 45 Height of

Sudoku

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5			2				
8	2			9			
	5	1			4	3	
			5			8	9
				2			8
1					9	6	
7			8	5	1	2	

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Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and

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3 2 9 8 5 4 7 1

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T Aries March 21-April 20 Yes, you've been in one place too long. you need a change of scene.

Taurus April 21-May 21 You could easily spend too much or in some other way damage your reputation for prudence today.

II Gemini May 22-June 21 You may go over the top and annoy someone you really ought to stay on good terms with. Think before you speak or push 'send'.

• Cancer June 22-July 22 A iob worth doing is a job worth getting paid the going rate for, and as you do a better job than most you are entitled to add a little bit extra. Ω Leo July 23-Aug.23 Creative

activities will go well over the next 24 hours but they will go even better if you don't try to do everything vourself

W Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 It is always a mistake to compare yourself to other people and it would be even more of a mistake now.

 ← Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Ideas will come thick and fast today but you won't achieve much if you try to follow up on each and every one

M Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22

There is something you have overlooked and you desperately need to find out what it is and take appropriate action.

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec.

21 You may feel there is nothing vou cannot do and vou may be right, but you do in fact have limits

like evervone else. B Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You may be on the verge of ending a project that does not seem to be going anywhere special but that would be a mistake.

Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Don't jump to conclusions and try to change things without consulting family and friends

H Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. If you get the chance to move up in the world you must take it.

SALLY BROMPTON





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